



Ancient Order of Hibernians

JOHN CARDINAL D'ALTON DIVISION 3

May 2022

Brother Hibernians _____



Days are getting good and long and spring is finally sprung. We hope everyone is getting a chance to get out for some sun and fresh air.

Our next division meeting will be at the Hibernian House **this Friday, May 20th at 8:00pm**.

Congratulations to Sean Walsh and the Golf Committee for a great event last week. What a great way to remember John Gannon, and during the evening's event, there was a moment of silence when we remembered all those we've recently lost. Congratulations to Brianne Lynn for winning the jetBlue tickets! The total event was also a financial success, adding meaningful funding to our Charity & scholarships fund. See the article that follows with some pictures.

Three days later, we gave some of that money away, as we honored nine scholarship winners, first at a Hibernian Mass and then at our Communion breakfast. See the following article and picture. Thanks to John Edwards for organizing the event and chef Bill Boera for another great meal, plus the many others who jumped in to help.

The Breezy Point trip isn't happening this month, as we didn't have enough people sign up, but we are looking to try it again in September. Look for more details in the near future. For other upcoming events, see that section below.

Note, on May 30th, Memorial Day, we will once again be marching in the Pearl River parade to honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. Please consider setting aside just two hours to help us remember.

Good & Welfare – Please say a prayer for all our members who may be suffering during the latest Covid wave as we've heard from a number of you – hopefully, the illness is mild and brief. A "good news" good & welfare item: Jim Whelan's wife, Joanne (Bubbles) treated us to some food to thank us for our support – we're so glad to see you out and that you're feeling better, Joanne! Also, continue to pray for the Ukrainians – their safety and a resolution to what is going on. Please also keep our law enforcement professionals, healthcare workers and members of the armed services in your prayers.

As always, we pray that you and your family are healthy and safe.

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Chuck Parnow

New Members



At our April meeting, four new members were sworn in. Congratulations and welcome to them – let's make sure they feel welcome and let's get them involved!

Joseph Ayres – Blauvelt
Andrew Blumenfeld – Jersey City

Matthew DeGennaro – Haverstraw
Robert Kolessar – Congers

Upcoming Events



Put these on your calendar!

- Monday, May 30 – Pearl River Memorial Day parade
- Friday, June 24 – June Division meeting (last one before the summer break)
- Saturday, June 11 – Party at the Hibernian House featuring “The Rummies”
- July 13-17 – AOH national convention in Pittsburgh (see an officer if interested)
- Saturday, September 17 – Party at the Hibernian House – half-way to St. Patrick's

Golf Outing



Congratulations to Sean Walsh and the Golf Committee for a great event last week. The day was a great remembrance for our friend for whom it was in memory of – John Gannon – and we were so happy to have both Kathleen Gannon and John Gannon Jr. there. So many pitched in and spent so much of their time to create a great day – I don't want to start listing names because I know I'll miss some. We had 160+ golfers at Blue Hill (who were excellent hosts – thank you Mike Gorham and team!) and a great party at the Elks (who also helped provide a great meal and venue – thanks!). Also, a big thanks to all who supported the event, either by attending, providing sponsorship or buying a raffle ticket.



Check-in was a great time to catch up with friends. The weather made for a great day on the fairways.

Scholarships



Throughout the pandemic, our scholarship committee found a way to continue our scholarship program. At first it meant delivering the scholarships on the student's front lawn. Later, it was a limited attendance breakfast for the families. Finally, this year, we were back to our full-blown celebration, including a Hibernian Mass followed by a Communion Breakfast back at the Hibernian House. Congratulations to our nine Division 3 scholarship winners:

Scholarship Recipient

Emily Boyle
Tara Edwards
Maeve Frieze
Madeline Guarneri
Erin Hieb
Catie Horan
Julia Neubauer
Ryan Tobin
Aidan Wood

Scholarship in Honor Of

Daniel Callanan
Richard Lenihan
James Harding
George Leahy
Laurence Kaine
Daniel Barry
Phillip Sheridan
John Gannon
John 'Jack' O'Connor

Also, congratulations to Kevin McNulty, chair of the Scholarship Committee, and the entire committee. Behind the scenes they do a really tough job, trying to differentiate among the applicants.



Ladies AOH



We appreciated those who supported our weekly Fish Fry on Fridays during Lent, in support of our charitable efforts. Our next fundraiser will be a garage sale. It will be held on June 4th from 10:00 to 3:00pm in the American Legion Parking Lot.

We will once again resume our Ascension Thursday event. It will start with Thursday Mass - 5:30 pm at St. Margaret's, followed by a dinner buffet at 7pm at Joe & Joe's. \$45 per person - includes dinner, wine, beer, soda. The Honoree is Ann Pettus. All are welcome. Any questions, contact: Ellen Huber elhub107@gmail.com

Otherwise, we will have a quiet summer and ramp up in September. Take Care.

Yours in Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity,

Helen Kilgallen Murphy
Division 3 - President

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Will we let our Heritage Sink, or Will we 'Stick Together' to Save it?



US COAST GUARD PHOTO

Recently, the nation was shocked by the published images of the *USS The Sullivans* sinking at the Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Military Park. The pictures of the decks of this proud vessel, which earned nine battle stars in World War II and two more during the Korean War, being awash with the American flag just barely above water is heartbreaking. To think that this vessel that survived the major battles of the Pacific in WW II should now sink in N.Y. due to neglect is unfathomable.

While *The Sullivans* should hold a position of respect for all Americans, it has a special place in the hearts of Irish Americans. *The Sullivans* was the first ship in the United States Navy to be commissioned in honor of more than one person. It commemorates the service and sacrifice of the five Irish American Sullivan brothers who refused to be separated on volunteering to serve in WW II, stating, "*We stick together.*" The Sullivan brothers served together on the *USS Juno* until she was sunk during the battle of Guadalcanal, resulting in the death of all five brothers. The Sullivan family sustained the most extensive loss in combat by any one American family during the war. The Sullivan brothers are symbolic of the best traditions of family and service to the nation

that have been the hallmark of Irish Americans. It is reported that it has been known since 2018 that *The Sullivans* needed repairs to its hull due to age and the effects of winter conditions at its mooring place in Buffalo, NY.

We have to ask how this sinking of the *USS Sullivans* was permitted to happen? The ship has been designated as a U.S. National Historic Landmark and is listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places. As a national landmark dedicated not only to the five Sullivan brothers but to the countless sailors who served heroically on *The Sullivans* for over twenty-three years, how can we so fail in our duty of remembrance and have reached this point of crisis for a problem that has been known for four years? The preservation of *The Sullivans* is not an issue confined to Buffalo or New York; it is a debt of gratitude owed by all Americans. The apparent broader reluctance to pay this debt should raise questions about our society's priorities.

The emblem of *The Sullivans* featured the shamrock and the motto of the Sullivan brothers, "*We stick together.*" It is time for us as Hibernians and Irish Americans to "stick together" and ensure that this important piece of American history is not lost. We are reminded that recently neglect and lack of funding claimed the museum ship *USS Barry*, named for Wexford immigrant John Barry, the first officer of the United States Navy, which was deemed irreparable and recently scrapped. We cannot let this happen to *The Sullivans*.

The New York State Ancient Order of Hibernians is launching a fundraising campaign to ensure that the memory of the sacrifice of the Sullivan brothers is not claimed by tide and apathy. The link for donations is <https://www.nyaoh.com/uss-the-sullivans>

